

CANCER: WHY SHOULD WE INVEST IN TREATMENT AND PREVENTION RESEARCH?

- Cancers cost the United States an estimated \$210 billion in 2005. This amount included \$74 billion in direct medical costs and nearly \$136 billion in lost productivity.¹
- Thanks to research, great progress has been made in the last three decades. In 1976, half of all cancer patients survived more than five years after diagnosis. Today, closer to two thirds or 63 percent of adults and 85% of children are alive five years after they learn they have cancer.²
- Advances in biomedical research benefits not only cancer treatment, but provides information on molecular and genetic processes that will aid in a better understanding in the underlying causes of virtually all diseases.
- Since cancer is more common among older Americans and the American population is aging, by the year 2050 the number of new cancer cases in America could more than double, with estimates as high as 2.46 million new cases annually.

¹ Center for Disease Control & Prevention, <http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/publications/aag/dcpc.htm>

² National Cancer Institute, <http://www.cancer.gov/nci-annual-report/>